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Bangalore Mirror

ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 31 | Min 20 | Humidity 88% Generally cloudy sky with rain Sensex 54,769 | Nifty 16,584 | Gold 51,247 | Silver 62,430 | Dollar 77.64 | Euro 83.32 | GBP 97.47

'Half-baked and cosmetic' Smart City work on Millers Road waylays citizens with sinkholes, steel rods, garbage and cables

HOLE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN

Hole dug to interlink water lines, says BSCL

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A sinkhole in the middle of the road, steel rods sticking out of the median, cables tied to electric poles and trees, garbage strewn all over and a sinking metal drain cover — these are some of the issues that took the sheen off the Smart City work on Miller's Road.

The one-kilometre stretch is in shambles. While it was recently asphalted, residents alleged that a sinkhole appeared soon after and was yet to be repaired. They said the gaping hole was creating a traffic bottleneck.

"The sinkhole appeared almost two months ago. A truck fell into it too. Initially, instead of fixing it immediately, it was barricaded. The area was blocked; vehicles were forced to enter into oncoming traffic on the other side and then cut back onto the road beyond the sinkhole. People were driving on the wrong side for over a month," said Susan P, a commuter.

As we go to press, we are told that the sinkhole in question is being filled up by BSCL (**inset picture**). Meanwhile, residents said the median was never

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

"Divider is broken at multiple places and not aligned. We pointed it out to the engineers, but they refused to repair it.

— Supriya Shetty, resident

Tax by data, drones

BBMP for data sharing, drone survey to boost property tax collection; to stop drum beating

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If you have not paid property tax, then beware, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is now verifying it from Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM).

In a first, the BBMP has tied up with BESCOM to share data on residential properties. Recently, during data verification, BBMP officials found that a plot in Koramangala was shown as vacant land and hence the owner was paying a nominal property tax.

However, when the officials checked with BESCOM, the property was found to draw electricity. This was a clear indication that the property owner was faking the records to the civic agency. So now, the civic agency is planning to verify the properties across the city using data exchange.

BBMP's special commissioner (revenue) Deepak RL said, "We have tied up with BESCOM for a pilot project to exchange data. Many houses pay lesser property tax claiming that the house has been built for residential purposes. However, they may be illegally using it for commercial purposes. So, we are verifying with BESCOM data to check if the power drawn is for residential or

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 An evening of art

Pracheen Kala Kendra, Chandigarh in association with Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru Kendra proudly presents "Utsav Karnataka 2022". The event promises to be a memorable one with noted musical and dance artistes performing, and you can join with your family for an evening worth remembering. **Where: Khincha Auditorium, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Race Course Road When: June 4 and 5, 5:30 pm onwards**

02 E-waste awareness

In an effort to create awareness around e-waste, Orion Mall at Brigade Gateway will be setting up an e-waste art gallery by renowned artist and designer, Vishwanath Mallabadi Davangere, whose main focus is on art forms through e-waste. The installations are made up of e-waste such as keyboard keys, CPUs, Hard Drives, PCB boards, LED Boards, cables etc. The objective is to engage audiences in a conversation about ecological and social responsibilities, which would lead to a greener tomorrow. **Where: Orion Mall @Brigade Gateway When: June 4 – 14, 10 am to 10 pm; Entry: Free**

03 Journey of the soul

Check out a special art exhibit called 'Jab Rooh Ne Parwaaz Ki' (When the soul took off) by artist Badrunissa Irfan. The art does not just speak the language of her heart but also brings forth her unforgettable life experiences. It also brought her closer to herself and aided as a stop in the journey of life at a bright and colourful place. Through the unique collection, the viewers will get an opportunity to appreciate nature's beauty. **Where: Galleria, 8th floor, UB City; When: Till June 30, 5:30 pm**

Pedal Power

Around a hundred cyclists pedalled 7.5 kilometre to encourage and educate people on the health benefits of cycling on World Cycle Day on Friday in Bengaluru. The event flagged from Vidhana Soudha in the presence of KC Narayana Gowda, minister for youth empowerment and sports, Shalini Rajneesh, additional chief secretary

Lake that's in danger

Citizens and activists are up in arms against widening of Uttarahalli Main Road as it encroaches upon a major portion of Sunkalpalya Lake's bed

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It is one of Bengaluru lake activists' worst fears. Roads being constructed illegally around a lake, which is often a pet project of BBMP. Now, in yet another instance of BBMP constructing roads near lakes, the civic body says it has received permission from Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority (KTCDA) to widen the four-lane Uttarahalli Main Road that will encroach a portion of Sunkalpalya lake bed.

Lake activists have alleged that the new expansion project from Mysore Road to Aditya Bakery Circle is likely to reduce the original water holding capacity and endanger road users as well.

"While the need to strengthen the road is understood, the encroachment of the lake for its expansion is illegal and directly violates the directions of the High Court. The current design of the road is neither in favour of the lake nor for the safety of those who will use this road that is now being widened by filling up, thus encroaching a part of the lake. It is highly likely that this road would be submerged in a deluge, resulting in exposing users to risk and also causing flooding of local areas." said Leo F Saldanha, Coordinator, Environment Support Group (ESG).

Noting the sustainable design of road on a pillar over the lake being implemented in the case of Sankey Road abutting Sankey Lake, the group highlighted that such alternate designs must be considered. The independent Not-For-Profit organisation that strives for social and environmental justice has also filed a writ petition with the Karnataka high court and the matter is awaiting consideration by the High Court. A complaint has also been filed with KTCDA.

BBMP said all necessary permissions were taken for the project

> **"The encroachment is illegal and directly violates the High Court's orders**
> – Leo F Saldanha, Environment Support Group

As per ESG, BBMP violates constructing in lake areas and for not taking prior permission from KTCDA as per KTCD Act 2014. It also alleged the move is in violation of the court orders which permit the construction of a highway if it is raised on pillars and slabs, and without the encroachment of the lake beds and interference with the water flows in and around the lake. ESG also noted that the construction of the highway was subjected to recommendations from the Lake Development Authority's Technical Committee.

A resident of the area said, "There has been a spike in the number of apartments cropping up in the area. The only long-term solution is to decongest traffic without the affecting biodiversity of the area."

However, BBMP clarified that the road project has been undertaken by following all the rules and following the instructions of the lake authority.

BBMP Chief Engineer (Roads and Infrastructure) BS Prahlad, said: "We are using the lake land and we have devised an alternative methodology to retain the water capacity lake. All necessary approvals have been taken."

BBMP RI West Division, Balaji added that they had received KTCDA's approval. The total area of the lake should remain the same in future. Since one side of the area is being taken for road construction, the same area will be developed on the other side.

He added, "The density of traffic is getting high in the area and this will help in decongestion. The project will also aid in increasing land value accordingly. The widening will loosen the bottleneck at Mysore Road junction and we will be able to give a free left turn." As per documents accessed by BM, KTCDA has instructed to construct the road without affecting the water capacity of the lake and without damaging the lake structure.

An activist and co-founder of Friends of Lake, Ram Prasad said, "The 2018 Amendment of Section 12 (iii) to KTCDA Act 2014 has been detrimental and used with impunity. There is a need to repeal or delete the amendment to save lakes in the state of Karnataka. There is also a need to mention the original water holding capacity of the lakes in revenue records and make it legally binding."

BBMP has also been instructed by KTDCA to retain the 8137 cubic metres of water holding capacity of the lake while constructing the lake. It has also been asked to remove all encroachments and develop the adjoining canals leading to the lake. KTCDA further noted that all actions as being implemented as per KTCDA 2014 and its amendment.

With everything they had, they fell in fraudster's web

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Man allegedly cheats victims of a total of ₹12 cr promising them high returns on investment

All that offers high returns, is not really gold. Around 20 people, including women, found this out the hard way. They have gone to the Police Commissioner to complain about a person they claim has cheated of more than Rs 12 crore in all.

The complainants said the man, Kenchappa Hosamani, had promised them high returns on the investments made with him. According to the complaint to the Police Commissioner, Hosamani's victims are not only in Bengaluru, but also in other states. They said that Hosamani and his wife Shruthi Kenchappa claimed to be directors of various companies and claimed that they were into crypto business and foreign share trading.

The victims invested money of their own and some even took loans to invest. It is said that for some the losses were so severe, that they even contemplated suicide.

At the commissioner's office, they were advised to approach the Jnanabharathi police station. Some of the victims had already done that and first information reports (FIRs) were registered at Jnanabharathi Police Station and other police stations against Kenchappa more than a year ago but the police are yet to nab him.

"Initially, Kenchappa used to stay in a rented house at Nagarabhavi. Later, he shifted to a palatial bungalow at HSR Layout claiming that he had bought it. His luxurious lifestyle impressed many gullible people, including me, to invest money. I received money from Kenchappa for four months. Later, he shifted to an unknown location. I have been struggling to get back my money," said James (name changed) who works with a public sector company.

Accused allegedly told victims he was into the crypto business

It is believed that Kenchappa has shifted base to Mumbai and is protected by a local politician. "I wanted to buy a house but ended up losing money by investing with Kenchappa. I was introduced to him by a common friend. Initially, I invested Rs 20 lakh. He was prompt in paying me for four months. Impressed by his punctuality, I invested Rs 20 lakh more. I tried to contact him over the phone but his phone is switched off," said an investor on the condition of anonymity.

Abhilash H, a resident of Nelamangala, said that he has been living just to pay the interest for the loan availed from friends and financiers. "Forty two people invested money along with me. The total amount was Rs 3.85 crore. Fifteen of 42 people managed to recover their money. I and 27 others lost money. There are cases against Kenchappa at Jnanabharathi, Malleswaram and Srirampura Police Stations for cheating and one case was registered at Upparpet Police Station for kidnapping," said Abhilash.

He said that Kenchappa was arrested in a kidnapping case after four days of his marriage. "He married Shruthi on May 7, 2019 and was arrested on May 11, 2019 for kidnapping a person. He was released on bail from Parappana Agrahara Prison after spending two months behind bars," he said.

He said that he has the liabilities worth Rs 1 crore because of his investments with Kenchappa. "I mortgaged my mother's and wife's jewellery to raise money to invest with Kenchappa. We lost most of the jewellery as we could not repay the mortgage loan," he said.

When BM asked Jnanabharathi police station inspector Manjunath said a case has been registered and investigations are going on.

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All's well along the Benglauru–Mysuru road

As highway work progresses fast, it is likely to open by Dasara; it will be fenced to prevent accidents

Bengaluru Mysuru highway is set to be the first highway around Benglauru City to be completely fenced. Many highways are prone to pedestrians, cattle or other animals crossing the road. This crossing is not only dangerous to the animals but also for vehicle users who are cruising on the highways. So, fences have been erected all along the highway from Bengaluru to Mysuru.

The officials believe this will go a long way in securing the highway from intrusion. As Bengaluru-Mysuru road has been designed in such a way that the travel time between the two cities is reduced to 75 minutes, the intrusion can be quite dangerous.

Meanwhile, many property buyers are saying that as the highway is supposed to be opened to the public by Dasara, so one can expect a realty boom. In another boost, Bengaluru-Mysuru highway is set to become the first highway in the city to have a helipad. This helipad which is to come up near Ramanagara will be used for emergency services as well as for VIPs. Sources said in case of any accident or emergency where patients have to be ferried, helicopters could be pressed into service.

However, many towns en route Bengaluru-Mysuru highway didn't have the provision for a helipad. So, the proposed one at Ramanagara can be helpful. Secondly, the highways get blocked during VIP movement. In such cases, the VIPs can take choppers from Bengaluru or Mysuru and land at Ramnagar to head to their respective destinations so that they can avoid disturbing the busy traffic.

As this is an access controlled highway the highway will have entry and exit points at 16 places.

The first phase of the works that involve six laning of road from NICE road junction (near Kengeri) to Nidaghatta is 90% complete and the NHAI was confident of throwing open this road to traffic by May this year. The second phase of the works from Nidaghatta to Mysuru Ring road is 85% complete and is likely to be finished by September this year. The cost of the first phase is Rs 3,501 crore and the second phase Rs 2,920 crore. This project will have five bypasses to avoid the traffic congestion at the towns. The Bidadi bypass will be of 6.9 km long, Ramanagara-Channapatna by 22.35 km, Maddur 4.5 km, Mandya 10 km and Srirangapatna 8 km. There will be an 8 km long corridor along with nine major bridges.

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How to select the best area for your home

Being in the right neighbourhood is as important as being in the right house. So, do your due diligence

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Once you have purchased your home, you can renovate/refurbish it multiple times as per your changing needs and lifestyle. However, you cannot change the location, neighbourhood or vibe of the community. Experts, therefore, opine that picking the right neighbourhood is as important as picking the right property. "A palatial flat located in a crime-ridden area, or an area lacking a dependable supply of the required utilities and access to shopping, schools, healthcare, and public transport is not a winning proposition," says Anuj Puri, chairman, Anarock Group.

Besides, it is the surroundings and locality that determine the honest value of your asset. "For instance, if you wish to rent or sell out your property, a neighbourhood with proximity to educational institutions, medical facilities, retail outlets, entertainment zones, connectivity via roads, metro lines and railways would attract more buyers," adds Jayesh Rathod, director, The Guardians Real Estate Advisory.

If you are a young couple, search for a house with your future needs in mind. For instance, if you are planning to start a family, then it may be better to direct your housing search towards finding a larger home in a good community, with educational institutes nearby. On the other hand, if you travel a lot for work and are constantly on the move, then purchasing a smaller abode in the city centre with easy access to transport infrastructure makes more sense.

"Infrastructure projects not only have an impact on realty prices, but also make the neighbourhood worth living in. Pay attention to things like parks, open spaces, proximity to shopping, dining and local attractions to enjoy a good quality of life," says Swapnil Anil, director, advisory services, Colliers India.

Easy access to the metro, grocery stores, and shopping malls were on top of the list of the newly-married couple Neil and Priya Bhatt when they started home-hunting last year. "We met multiple real estate agents to understand the dynamics of various neighbourhoods. We also connected with family and friends to learn from their experiences. Besides, a lot of societies and RWAs are very active on social media," shares Priya.

Additionally, make sure to visit the area at different times of the day. Visiting in the morning will help you see what the traffic looks like, and during the night you will be able to gauge if the area is noisy or potentially unsafe after dark.

If you are a family of four, a neighbourhood that would improve the work-life balance should be given a priority. "A neighbourhood that has quality schools, playgrounds, community places, and recreation spaces is best for a family with two growing children. Proximity to markets, malls, and availability of house-help are some factors, which should not be compromised upon," adds Anil.

For 35-year-old Ambreen Khan, chatting up with her neighbours gave her a good sense of the locality. "Since I will be resuming work after a sabbatical – I wanted to ensure that there are good crèches/daycare centres in the vicinity. Besides, a quick online check for crime rates in the neighbourhood or if it has been in the news for any questionable reasons also helped us decide. How long will it take to get to work? Is there public transportation available if there is a medical emergency? These are some other questions, which I asked myself before finalising the property," explains Khan.

If you have young kids or pets, try to live closer to parks and community centres. If you have teens, stay clear of an area with a lively bar scene. Rather you should go to a neighbourhood where your children can walk to a swimming pool, a tennis/basketball court, the gym, art centres, and libraries, among others.

If you are a retired couple, then a home on the lower floors and easy access to amenities such as healthcare support, open spaces and banks should be on the top of your wish list. "It is preferable that they take into consideration a locality with good connectivity for hassle-free commute and medical facilities in case of any emergency," says Rathod.

Times Property

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Culvert that shall drain away all flooding woes

BBMP to construct culvert that will connect drains on Graphite India Main Road

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The issue of flooding at Anjaneya temple junction on Graphite India Main Road is not a new one, and during every spell of rain, motorists suffer year after year. But now, residents and commuters may have a reason to cheer as BBMP announced that a culvert will be developed under the Graphite India comprehensive development plan to connect the drains.

To fix the problem, BBMP officials have planned to construct a culvert to connect drains on both sides of the road which will connect Chinnapanahalli Lake. BBMP officials have estimated this project to be completed in one month.

During rains, the area fills up with 6-8 inches of water and the road gets damaged in the process. "Residents of Doddanekundi have been very proactive in identifying solutions and taking it up with the department officers. This enables faster decision-making and execution of projects. In this context, the flooding in Anjaneya Temple Junction was a perennial problem. It was addressed temporarily but again the issue resurfaced this year. The culvert being built across the road would help solve this problem permanently," said Clement Jayakumar, Chairman of Mahadevapura Task Force - Jal Shakthi (Water Management).

During the monsoon, the road is filled with six-eight inches of water on an average

BangaloreMirror
For want of a proper vent
Tender process for stormwater vent construction at Horamavu's Sai Layout will begin soon, says Palike; residents however, remain sceptical

Our story on May 31 reported how stormwater vents were the need of the hour in Bengaluru now

> **"Our plan is that the culvert and drains will connect Chinnapanahalli Lake**
> – Clement Jayakumar, Chairman of Mahadevapura Task Force - Jal Shakthi

BBMP AEE Shiv Shankar said that previously, there was a 2-feet pipe culvert but BESCOM and KPTCL had installed cables across the drain. "This is not a low-lying area and the primary problem was occurring due to the cables. We have removed the cables now and a new four-feet clear vent and an additional two-feet pipe culvert are being added. Drains have already been placed on both sides."

However, during the period, a portion of the road will be closed for construction. "Half the work is completed and vehicles can pass through the area. We have left around 25 metres for vehicles to move," added Shankar.

In solidarity to protect Pattandur Lake

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Residents of Whitefield will gather to hold a 'Human Chain Solidarity' walk, around the entire Pattandur Agrahara Lake on Sunday June 5 (World Environment Day). Citizens will do a symbolic 'parikrama' around the lake to bless it, and demand government action to protect the lake from violations and demand buffer zones to revive and rejuvenate the lake.

The mass action has been supported by citizens and environmentalists not only from Whitefield, but across Bengaluru, Karnataka and beyond; the Save Pattandur Agrahara Campaign is being keenly watched from across the country, lake activists and environmentalists pointed out.

BangaloreMirror
KTCDA to Pattandur Agrahara lake rescue
Authority asks BBMP to pause building in the lake's buffer zone, will write to BDA to add lake as part of RMP 2015

Our story on May 21 reported how the lake is in need of protection

The human chain protests held before on the same issue in 2017 and 2018 saw thousands of citizens show up with entire families participating. Citizens are gathering again to protest because there has been no improvement in the situation, pledging to continue the protest campaign until the illegal road work is cancelled by the government, and the lake is revived and protected.

This is a declaration by citizens that 'The Environment Comes First'.

In parallel, a nation-wide Tweetathon is also planned involving groups and supporters from all across India on Saturday and Sunday.

This is a part of an ongoing citizen campaign since 2017, launched when the illegal road construction was notified by the government.

A better township, for citizens, by citizens

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Ever since the IT boom transformed Bengaluru, the landscape of Electronics City has changed and how. But while development has taken place rapidly, so have problems and civic issues, and the area constantly struggles to balance development and environmental sustainability.

To mark the occasion of World Environment Day on June 5, the Electronics City Industrial Township Authority (ELCITA) has launched a competition seeking inputs regarding township development from citizens across India.

In a bid to make informed choices and garner valuable inputs from citizens, ELCITA had organised a competition to seek inputs from citizens to improve their township.

The winning entry will get a cash prize of Rs 25,000. Interested participants have to record a 3-minute explainer video of the concept and submit it by June 10th.

They also have to upload the video on Instagram and tag ELCITA. A link to the video has to be shared at sust.mgr@elcita.in, while camera-shy people can also participate in the challenge by sharing the pitch as a document or power-point presentation.

Entries will be marked out of 100 points: 40 points for a unique solution that should focus on innovation and transformation, 30 points for a solution that is original and innovative in approach, and 30 points for a solution being practical which can also be implemented within 6-12 months.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

A file picture of the metro work in progress at E City

The challenge is open to all Indian nationals but the pitch must focus on innovation and transformation. Winners will be judged by a jury comprising industry experts and cash prizes will be awarded.

The winning entry gets Rs 25,000, the runner-up an amount of Rs 15,000, and the second runner-up will get Rs 10,000. All top 10 finalists will be awarded a certificate of recognition.

CEO of ELCITA, Ravindra Singh said, "The competition is aimed at bringing new ideas in terms of a smart city, sustainability, solving any issues being faced in Electronics City. Normally, citizens don't take part in governance and we wanted to create a platform for citizens to take part easily. We are looking for revolutionary ideas that will transform Electronics City forever.

"We keep getting suggestions for adding green cover, better walking spaces, etc. We are looking at various concepts to improve governance in this part of Bengaluru."

We have done some good work in smart city space and now we are looking at upping the ante by implementing decision-making systems. We will incorporate changes based on feedback from citizens, he added.

Bad air? The dust never settles down

NIAS study shows that windblown road dust is the main cause of high PM level in city's air

KAUSHIK JN

In the city, windblown dust is the biggest contributor to PM levels at 31.85%

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru's air quality, similar to any other city across the world, has been worsening. What is probably distinct, is the reason behind the increase in the level of harmful particulate matter (PM) in the air. For Bengaluru, it is not the transport sector or industries. As per a study conducted by the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), windblown road dust is the main culprit behind the bad air in Bengaluru.

Out of 17 sectors responsible for the emission of PM10, the second most lethal air pollutant, windblown dust is the biggest contributor (31.85%), leaving behind the transport sector (21.80%), industry (19.41%), and many more. Bengaluru recorded 36.31 Giga gram (Gg) of windblown dust in 2020.

Unpaved roads, poorly managed traffic, unscientific speed humps and the construction industry not following environmental norms are only some of the reasons behind high PM levels in Bengaluru's air, say experts.

"Our study has quantified the annual emission load from all possible sources in Bengaluru in 2020. We have found out that unlike traditionally dominating transport and industrial sector; unattended sources like windblown road dust and municipality solid waste burning are emerging as dominating sources at various emission hotspots across the city," said Dr Gurfan Baig, co-author of the study and professor at NIAS, IISc campus.

When it comes to the most lethal air pollutant (PM2.5), road dust is the fifth biggest contributor, only behind transport, industries, diesel generators and municipal solid waste burning.

As per the study, the CV Raman Road in Malleshwaram recorded the highest PM10 load (~12.04 Gg), followed by 32nd Cross Road (~5.53Gg), Chikkanagamangala Road(~2.04 Gg), Seegehali Road (~2.03 Gg) and Mangalore Villipuram Road (~1.81 Gg).

Moreover, across all the hotspots, the majority of the PM10 emission took place due to windblown road dust owing to bad road conditions. However, the transport sector remains the largest source of emission overall for all other pollutants followed by industry and municipal solid waste burning.

Remedies available

Efficient traffic and signal management, traffic bifurcation based on vehicular speeds, carpet-to carpet road scaffolding and fixed bus stop with parking spaces are some of the measures that can bring down the amount of dust in the air.

The majority of the roads in the city have unpaved areas on both sides and experts suggest end-to-end scaffolding using paver's block as a solution to bring down the level of PM10 in the air.

"During peak traffic hours, many vehicles plying on the unpaved areas are a common sight. This causes the suspension of a huge amount of dust, which never gets to settle down due to the continuous flow of traffic. While the idea behind unpaved sides of the road is to allow the seepage of rainwater and avoid flooding, both these issues can be addressed if pavers blocks are used instead of tar or concrete," added Dr Baig.

That is not all. Anything that slows down the traffic leads to higher emissions of particulate matter. Slow-moving vehicles, unnecessary speed humps and running engines at traffic signals lead to high emission of PM, including that of PM10.

"Vehicles from different speed categories should not be plying together. Traffic should be bifurcated based on this category. For instance, a lorry moving at a slow pace slows down the traffic, leading to higher emissions. The same rule applied to unscientific speed bumps. Moreover, drivers should be educated about the impact of running engines at traffic junctions. Engines should always be switched off to reduce the emission," informed Dr Baig.

Experts also say that pollution inventory should be upgraded every alternative year as the sources keep changing along with the development of the city and implemented policies.

> **"During peak traffic hours, many vehicles plying on unpaved areas are a common sight. This causes the suspension of a huge amount of dust that never settles**
>
> –Gurfan Baig, NIAS

RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at c-rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Lay of la-la land

A person's identity is invariably linked to their reality. So what is identity, or indeed reality, in the age of tech?

Yet to be acknowledged, however, is the existential crisis taking root in the collective as a result of tech trampling upon day-to-day realities of a billion lives — altering true identities, whether they like it or not.

The pressure to mould online personas that may have a bearing on job prospects and social standing, meanwhile, has legitimised half-truths.

The immediate aftermath of this digital posturing and its effect on the prospects of an emerging economy apart, how this affects those excluded largely due to poverty, is never a talking point even as unemployment peaks.

This is a critical question when the realm of real and unreal merge into an augmented reality of sorts — not AR, but harsh ground realities that tech seems to be augmenting. The disparity is shortchanging those who cannot afford tech, especially a smartphone or expensive data.

Linking internet connectivity and data usage to livelihoods without ensuring subsidised tech infrastructure is a definitive flaw. BM recently reported how ASHA workers' incentives are linked to uploading work particulars sans access to a smartphone or data.

How easily we take for granted that the internet is a public common when, in fact, it is far from it: expensive and slower in India. The ordinary citizen is being constantly set back by ever-increasing data charges.

Well, the internet could have been a public common in retrospect, not just limited to the brouhaha of empowering millions.

Subsequently, the reality of the impoverished majority is not only lost in faraway nondescript servers, but their wretched existence further dragged from pillars to posts of confusion and corruption.

The lack of a pronounced tech policy is a primary concern when anything and everything related to human survival is linked to tech companies that profit. Centre's withdrawn-as-soon-as-released advisory on sharing photocopies of the Aadhaar card, for instance. The bitter fact: many have shared Aadhaar card copies which are now lying dormant somewhere online waiting to be misused.

It is as though humanity has been put under a spell or an alternative reality as depicted in fictional passages, cinema or achieved by ingestion of certain hallucinogens.

I am reminded of the iconic sci-fi films of Soviet filmmaker Andrei Tarkovsky — Solaris and Stalker made in the 70s — in which perceived reality is a major theme as is nature. In these seminal, ultra realist, pre-technology era movies, where what is real to human perception is altered by external or extra-terrestrial elements, individuals find themselves unable to conduct sensibly.

Sadly, such a scenario has arisen in our intertwined virtual realities as tech undermines the course of economic development of certain sections of society while augmenting the welfare of a select few.

Societies that use social media today are more or less going through the influence of this altered reality resulting from careful and curated presentation of personas — largely unchecked and excluded from the ambit of law. Oftentimes anonymous brutality spills over from the online echo chamber to the physical setting, in mass shootings and so forth.

Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi's recent remarks while visiting universities of repute in the United Kingdom was certainly contextual — as guaranteed by the constitution, India is indeed a Union of states much similar to the European Union where governance is a bottom-up exercise, not top-down, considering the socio-cultural diversity. This is true for technological interventions too. A broad stroke may not suffice to ensure the benefits of tech innovations for all, if in fact, these are true innovations.

The EU is far ahead than the rest of the world in tech regulation: a sound tech policy is already penalising big tech for excesses there.

We have varied cases in point of how tech has displayed the capability to alter reality. Two most immediate instances are the Russia-Ukraine conflict and Depp-Heard trial. The trajectories of both cases may have been quite different and the aftermath rather inconsequential to the larger society if not for digital binaries of pro and anti camps.

Sadly, when the illumination of realisation dawns it is often beyond salvation and damage done. Late would be an understatement in India. Nevertheless, the overarching reality of this la-la land is, anything can be said, shared or desecrated as bad actors are further enabled and empowered in a policy fiasco. This is diminishing the chances of social inclusion in a world on the verge of tech-driven social implosion.

As a multicultural, diverse and vibrant society, we must check this brutal march of tech excesses, devouring and reshaping everything on its way as per the whims of increasingly skewed, biased and most certainly, profit-oriented algorithms. Instead let's subject every social tweak and way of doing business augmented by tech to stricter scrutiny.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

GREENERY'S ON THE OTHER SIDE

This picture was taken at the Hennur Lake Biodiversity Park. The space is filled with greenery everywhere and the lake also adds to the park's beauty.

The picture was clicked by reader **Jeon Richie**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Cesspools that won't go away in E City Phase 2

Clogged sewage lines, damaged roads plague residents

Commuters and residents have to navigate the roads which resemble a slush pit

Shreyashi Mukherjee
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The rain may have subsided in the city but citizens continue to feel its impact. From poorly maintained roads to clogged sewage lines, there has been no end to the plight of the average Bengalurean. This time, it is the residents of Electronics City Phase Two who have been bearing the brunt of ill-maintained sewage pipes.

The residents say that the sewage pipes are not functioning and this has been the scenario for the last few years. Every time it rains, the roads get waterlogged and no one is there to unclog it.

The road was dug months ago for laying sewage pipes. However, though the work was done, the road was not repaired properly.

A resident on the condition of anonymity, said, "There no one to maintain the sewage drains. Every time it rains, the road gets waterlogged for days. Even a few days ago, it rained and the road is still waterlogged. On the days it was raining, it had become very difficult for us to even walk on those roads."

> **Mosquitoes have increased and the area stinks** – Subhash Gowda, a resident

The residents say that when the road gets blocked, they have to take a different route from Govind Shetty Palya Road which is an extra three to four kilometres distance.

Rakshita Kumar, a resident of the area, said, "Because of the rain, it was already difficult to travel; plus, I had to take the longer route to go to my office and I got late. These poorly maintained roads have made it very difficult for people like us to go about their daily work."

The residents have requested the BBMP officials to take necessary steps. However, no step has been taken by the authorities yet.

Subhash Gowda, another resident of the area, added that since the water was stagnant, the area had also started to stink a lot. "The increase in mosquitoes has also increased drastically. Our kids and elderly family members are finding this situation extremely difficult."

DID YOU KNOW?

One of the oldest libraries in the city, the Sir Seshadri Iyer Memorial Hall, built in 1915, is a classic European style building with Tuscan and Corinthian columns.
Built in honour of Sir K Seshadri Iyer who was Dewan of Mysore State from 1883 to 1901, this is an impressive red building with gables. It houses the Seshadri Memorial library.
The memorial building is ensconced in the middle of the park, framed by the greenery of the park and with a beautiful frontage of the rose garden.
The library has presently a collection of 2.65 lakh books and also a Braille section.
– from https://library100.janastu.org/

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

How can authorities better protect the city's cycle tracks from being encroached by motorists?

Chetan Singh, BM Reader
Traffic police should levy hefty penalties on encroachers. A massive public awareness drive should be launched on health benefits of cycling & protecting the cycling track.

Gaurav Maini, BM Reader
Authorities should organise 'Cycle Day' once a month and create awareness about the rights of cyclists on roads. They can appoint cycle wardens to discourage motorists occupying the lanes. Also, city roads have to be widened for motorists so that they don't enter cycle lanes.

Simran Dua, Student
To help protect these lanes, authorities can put signboards on cycle tracks at regular distances. Traffic personnel could be assigned to make sure the motorists follow the rules strictly and levy penalty on the violators.

KL Subramanyam, BM Reader
Encroachment of bicycle lanes leads to accidents and deaths. Rules for dedicated cycle lanes must be followed strictly. Signboards must be displayed for the bicycle lanes. CCTV cameras must be installed. Authorities concerned must be vigilant and levy huge fines on the offenders.

Vinod Jacob, BM Reader
Cycling as a last mile connector will fail if cycle lanes will be used by motorists. Cycling has to be promoted and if cycle lanes can be protected by a law and severe fines imposed only then cycling will survive.

SPEAK TO US

How can authorities help curb speeding in Bengaluru and prevent road accidents?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Time to unite against sledging: R Ashwin

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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Cricketers univocally demanded that it was time to put an end to sledging in all the form of sports. Indian spinner Ravichandran Ashwin said that sledging has turned out to be one of the tools used by sportspersons to pin down their opponents morally. To put an end to this culture, sledging should be stopped. "I feel that good parenting is essential where kids need to be taught on how not to sledge when they become older," said the ace cricketer recalling the sledging incident where Australians tried unsuccessfully to intimidate the Indian cricketers during the Aussie tour in 2020. His colleague Cheteshwar Pujara added, "Nowadays, we have learnt how to overcome sledging. We don't care and try to maintain composure and focus on the game instead of getting distracted by sledging."

"We have learnt how to overcome sledging. We try to maintain our composure and focus on the game
–Cheteshwar Pujara

Many Indian cricketers including Mohammed Siraj and Jasprit Bumrah have been subject to racial abuse from spectators during their previous Australian tour. Speaking at Voot Select's trailer launch of Bandon Mein Tha Dum, Cricketer Ajinkya Rahane recalled the incident where Siraj who was standing at the boundary was racially abused by spectators. "I complained about this to the umpires who had asked us to go back to the dressing room if we didn't want to play. But, we insisted that we didn't want to quit the game but instead wanted abusive spectators to be taken out of the stadium. As a result, the match was suspended for 10 minutes. When the umpires said that we can walk out of the game, we said we were here to play and not walk out," Rahane added.

"We were flying to Sydney and the flight encountered a thunderstorm. It was so scary that for a moment, I thought that the flight would never land," Ashwin said, adding that overseas tours are never easy and if the team has not performed well, then there was every chance that the team could be get an earful from the spectators, local media and the opposition team.

Cricketers Ajinkya Rahane, Mohammad Siraj, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ravichandran Ashwin and Hanuma Vihar pose for a photo at the launch of the upcoming web series 'Bandon Mein Tha Dum', in Mumbai

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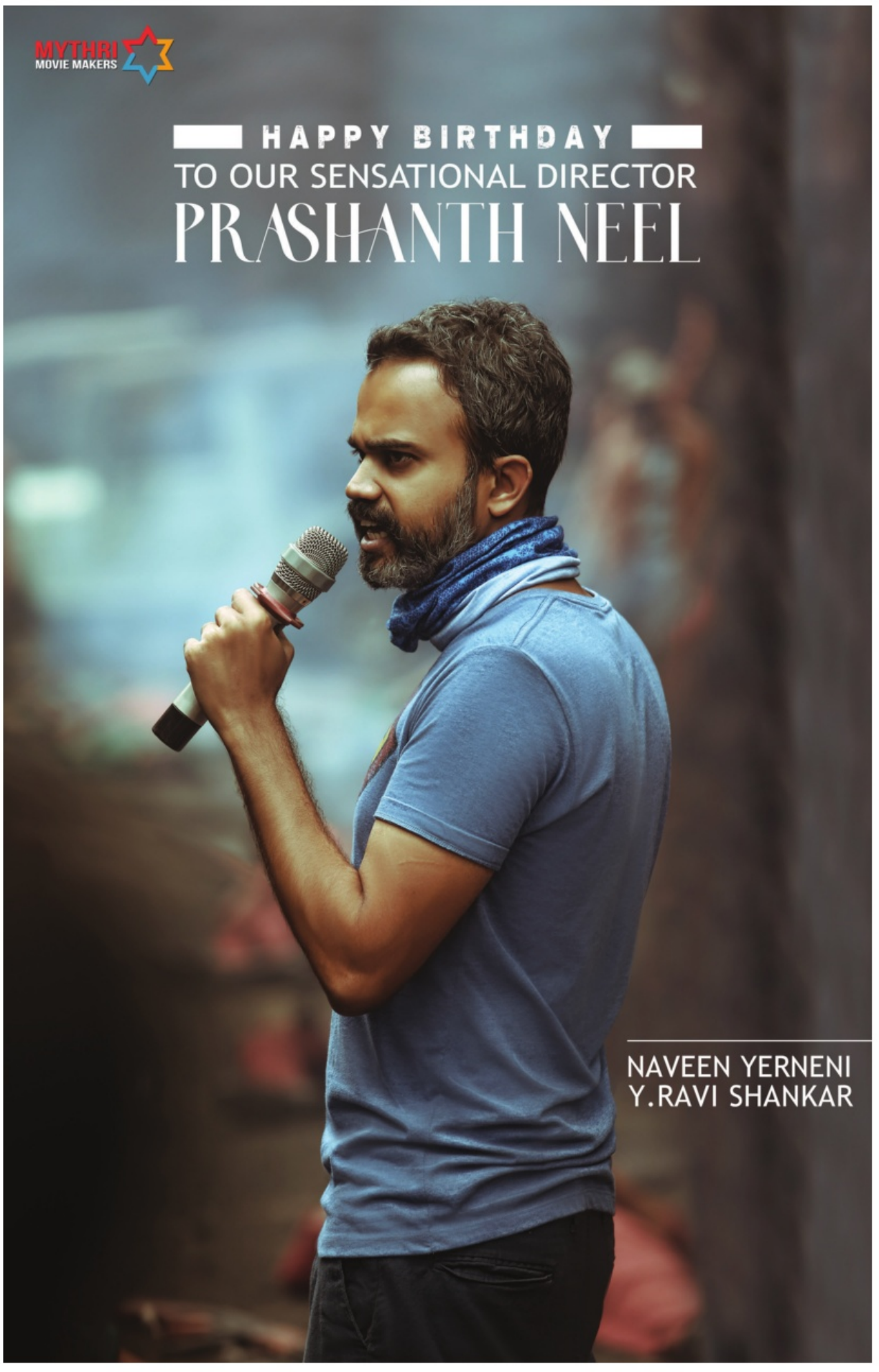

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, IRFANULLA KHAN RAHAMATHULLA MOHAMED C/o Rahmathulla Khan, R/at No.26, 6th Main, Near Neelkunteshwara Temple Opp Sackhmvit Trust, Chamundinagar Bangalore-560032 have changed my name to IRFANULLA KHAN vide affidavit dated: 2/6/2022 Before Notary C.Sharada Bangalore.

I, Chhavi Suresh Pareek D/O, Sureshkumar R Pareek R/o 19, Pushp Cottage, Survey No 79, Meghpar(kumbhardi), Anjar, East-kutch, Gandhidham. - 370110. have changed my name to Chhavi Sureshkumar Pareek for all purposes.

I, M. DANIEL SUGANTHRAJ S/o T Michael R/a #75/6, Muni gowda Garden, Neelasandra, Bangalore–47 have changed my name as MICHAEL DANIEL SUGANTHRAJ vide affidavit dated: 03/06/2022 sworn before Notary C. Sharada, Bangalore.

I, Rejoice D/O Man Bahadur Lama R/O #89, Navrathna Agrahara, Sadahalli Post, Chikkajala Hobli, Bangalore-562110 have changed my name to Rejoice Lama.

I Khushboo B W/O, Jatin Kumar D Jain R/o #1 1st Floor Burugal Matt Road Behind Trishala Residency V V Puram Bangalore 560004 have changed my name to Khushboo

I Bhuvnesh Kumar Jain S/O, Chandraprakash Luniya R/o 268, Sundar Industrial Estate Nty Layout Mysore Road Bangalore have changed my name to Lalitendra Luniya

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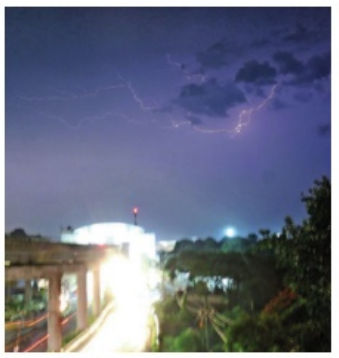
Getting ready for Yoga Day

Ahead of the International Day of Yoga celebrations, the Mysuru Palace surroundings are getting a facelift and a dab of new paint

Heavy rain in state for 4 days, yellow alert for Bengaluru



Heavy rainfall has been predicted in Karnataka for four days from Friday by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), which has sounded a yellow alert for Bengaluru and coastal regions.

The Bengaluru city, Bengaluru Rural, coastal districts of Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada and Udupi are to witness heavy showers.The rain is going to lash Hassan, Shivamogga, Ramanagar, Kodagu and Chikkamagalur districts.

Heavy rainfall is also predicted in Mysuru, Mandya, Chamarajanagar districts of south Karnataka. Yellow alert has been sounded in Bengaluru and coastal districts.

It has also been warned of rain with lightning and thunder in most districts of the state. Bengaluru will experience lightning and thunderstorms on Friday and Saturday.

North Karnataka districts of Bagalkot, Bidar, Gadag, Koppal, Raichur will not be affected with rainfall.

Yellow alert is a signal of just watch and the weather condition during this alert is heavy rain from 7.5 to 15 mm. **IANS**

To-let no more in Mysuru

As workers slowly move back in, rental houses are back in demand in heritage city

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

People are slowly heading back to Mysuru city as covid ebbs

The housing sector had taken a big hit during the pandemic and Mysuru was no exception. Now, with covid cases being low and people returning to their work places, the demand for rental houses is also steadily rising.

As a result of this, many house-owners are able to take off the "To-Let" boards that were hanging outside the homes for long. Real estate developers said that many software engineers, construction labourers, garment workers, auto, cab drivers and others who had either relocated back to their hometowns or had lost their jobs and moved to their villages had done so by giving up their rented houses.

This led to a large inventory of vacant houses at Saraswathipuram, Kuvempunagar, Jayanagar, Gokulam, and other important areas where houses were in high demand. Now all the sectors are recovering, business activities are back to normal.

Many companies including those in the IT sector are resuming operations from offices, and the demand for houses is also on the rise.

Kantha, a resident of Hebbal, said, "In the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic, I returned to Bettadapura by vacating my house in Mysuru. My office resumed office three months ago, now I am staying in Mysuru and working from the office."

A house-owner in Saraswathipuram Venkatesh said their 2BHK house was empty for the last eight months. "Now new tenants have occupied the house. This gave me a lot of relief," he said. This has also resulted in the trains from Nanjangud to Mysuru running packed. Construction workers, hotel workers, and others travel to Mysuru on a daily basis. Those who were settled in their villages are also back in the city.

Meanwhile, rental demand is also slowly picking up in Bengaluru. According to house owners, there were multiple reasons for the houses falling vacant.

First it was the lockdown which forced guest workers residing in Bengaluru to move out. Secondly, work from home trend allowed many in tech firms to move back to their hometowns. Thirdly, many lost jobs and had to move out.

Analysing the trend, Kumarappa S, a real estate developer, said, "When Bengaluru experienced the IT boom, many areas in and around the tech corridor saw the rents spiking. One of the major reasons for that was that techies wanted to stay closer to their office so that they could beat the traffic blues. However, with WFH being the new normal, many have preferred to shift to low income areas due to low rent or to their native places. But, with offices restarting, techies are back to trying to find houses in the city. Now, we are seeing a slight increase in rentals in Bengaluru as well. Hope we don't have another wave and the boom continues."

7 killed in K'taka accident

#Hyderabad

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao has expressed shock over the ghastly road accident that claimed lives of seven from Hyderabad in Karnataka's Kalaburagi district on Friday and announced ex-gratia of Rs 3 lakh each to their families.

A private bus coming to Hyderabad from Goa caught fire after a head-on collision with a DCM van near Kamalapur Friday morning.

According to reports reaching here, the bus fell into a ditch after the collision and caught fire. Twenty people were injured in the accident and they have been admitted to a hospital at Kalaburagi

A group of people from Secunderabad here had gone to Goa for a tour last week and were returning home when the tragedy struck them.

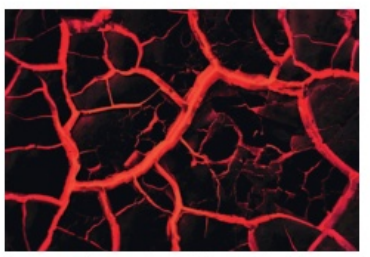
KCR has condoled the death of people and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members. He announced Rs 3 lakh each to the families of the deceased and Rs 50,000 each for the injured. He also directed Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar to take necessary steps. **IANS**

Batteries that charge faster, last longer, courtesy IISc

In a breakthrough, researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and their collaborators have discovered how next-generation solid-state batteries fail and devised a novel strategy to make these batteries last longer and charge faster.

Solid-state batteries are poised to replace the lithium-ion batteries found in almost every portable electronic device. But on repeated or excessive use, they develop thin filaments called 'dendrites' which can short-circuit the batteries and render them useless.

In a new study published in Nature Materials, the researchers have identified the root cause of this dendrite formation - the appearance of microscopic voids in one of the electrodes early on. They also show that adding a thin layer of certain metals to the electrolyte surface significantly delays dendrite formation, extending the battery's life and enabling it to be charged faster.



Researchers have identified the root cause of dendrite formation on batteries

Conventional lithium-ion batteries, the kind that you might find in your smartphone or laptop, contain a liquid electrolyte sandwiched between a positively charged electrode (cathode) made of a transition metal (such as iron and cobalt) oxide and a negatively charged electrode (anode) made of graphite.

When the battery is charging and discharging (using up power), lithium ions shuttle between the anode and cathode in opposite directions. These batteries have a major safety issue, the liquid electrolyte can catch fire at high temperatures. Graphite also stores much less charge than metallic lithium.

A promising alternative, therefore, is solid-state batteries that switch out the liquid for a solid ceramic electrolyte and swap graphite with metallic lithium. Ceramic electrolytes perform even better at higher temperatures, which is especially useful in tropical countries like India. **IANS**

Karnataka among 5 states on Centre's covid watch-list

Centre has advised 5 states to maintain strict watch and take preemptive action to curb cases

Health workers collect swab samples for covid tests at Majestic bus stand in Bengaluru

"There is a need to follow a risk assessment-based approach on the public health responses without losing the gains made
– Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secy

In view of a surge in covid-19 cases over the past week and in the weekly positivity rate, the Centre on Friday advised five states to maintain a strict watch and take pre-emptive action, if needed, to control any emerging spread of the infection.

In a letter to Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Telangana, Karnataka and Maharashtra, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan highlighted that a few states were reporting a higher contribution to India's caseload, indicating the possibility of a localised spread of the infection.

"There is, therefore, a need to follow a risk assessment-based approach on the public health responses without losing the gains made so far in the fight against the pandemic," Bhushan said.

In the letter, he mentioned a sustained and significant decline in the number of coivd cases has been observed in India over the past three months. However, a slight upsurge in cases is being noticed, with 15,708 new infections being reported in a week ending on May 27, which rose to 21,055 cases in a week ending on June 3. Also, there is a rise in the weekly positivity from 0.52 per cent in a week ending May 27, 2022 to 0.73 per cent in a week ending June 3. States have been asked to refer to the directions issued in a letter by the ministry dated April 8, 2022 for strategic areas of intervention like relaxation in various activities, testing and surveillance, clinical management, vaccination, and community engagement with an increased focus on evidence-based decision making.

They have been advised to continue implementation and monitoring of necessary measures for prompt and effective management of covid and to ensure compliance with various advisories issued by the ministry.

The five-fold strategy of test-track-treat-vaccination and adherence to Covid-appropriate behaviour should be followed, along with monitoring of clusters of new cases and adequate testing, Bhushan said in the letter. Focus should also be on monitoring of Influenza-like illnesses (ILI) and SARI cases in all health facilities on a regular basis for detecting early signals of the spread of infection and genomic sequencing for prescribed samples of international passengers, collection of samples from sentinel sites (identified health facilities), and local clusters of cases.

According to the letter, Tamil Nadu has reported an increase in weekly new cases from 335 in the week ending on May 27 to 659 in the week ending on June 3, accounting for 3.13 per cent of India's new cases in the week ending on June 3.

The state has also seen an increase in positivity in the last week from 0.4 per cent to 0.8 per cent.

While analyzing district-wide covid-19 situations, it has been observed that two districts, Chennai and Chengalpattu, have recorded an increase in weekly cases and positivity, and it requires focused intervention from the state administration, the letter stated. Kerala has reported an increase in weekly new cases from 4,139 new infections in the week ending on May 27 to 6,556 in the week ending on June 3, accounting for 31.14 per cent of India's new cases in the week ending on June 3.

Karnataka has reported an increase in weekly new cases from 1,003 new infections in the week ending on May 27 to 1,446 in the week ending on June 3, accounting for 6.87 per cent of India's new cases in week ending on June 3. Bengaluru Urban has recorded an increase in weekly cases and positivity which requires focused intervention. – PTI

ELSEWHERE ININDIA

Centre approves EPF interest for FY22, at 8.1%

#NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday approved the 8.1 per cent rate of interest on employees' provident fund deposits for FY22. At 8.1 per cent, the rate for the last fiscal would be at a near four-decade low. In March, the Central Board of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) proposed to pay 8.1 per cent rate of interest on provident fund deposits for the current financial year, which has now got the Centre's nod. In FY21, interest rate of employees Provident fund was 8.5 per cent. The EPFO is the country's largest retirement fund and the second largest non-banking financial institution with a corpus of about Rs 16 lakh crore. While giving rationale behind the interest rate cut, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said the proposal to cut interest rate paid on employees' provident fund deposits was dictated by today's realities where returns on other small saving instruments were even lower. – IANS

1-km eco-sensitive zone must for national parks

#NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday said each protected forest – either national park or wildlife sanctuary – must have an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) of minimum 1 km, where no permission should be given ti mining and other commercial activities as it made clear that mining in such areas will not be allowed. This was said by a bench of Justices L. Nageswara Rao, B R Gavai, and Aniruddha Bose. – IANS

The hole darn thing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

repaired by the Bengaluru Smart City Limited (BSCL) citing technical issues. The divider with multiple gaps with metal rods sticking out poses a grave danger to two-wheelers and pedestrians.

"The flawed median on Millers Road has not been addressed at all by Smart City. The divider is broken at multiple places and is not aligned. We pointed it out to the engineers, but they refused to repair it. Officials said that the median is asphalted into the road, unlike modular cement dividers, making it difficult to renovate. Metal rods are sticking out at the gaps, proving to be very dangerous for pedestrians and two-wheelers taking the U-turn," said Supriya Shetty, another resident.

Residents noted that the work is half-baked and cosmetic. Metal grating over a drain in the middle of the road is crying for attention as it sinks a little bit every time a vehicle passes over it. Moreover, wires hanging precariously on pavements endanger pedestrians.

"A couple of drains in the middle of the footpath are sticking out about four inches above the ground. Cables are hanging everywhere. This is despite BBMP's ruling against overhead cables. They are tied up at various angles onto lamp posts and trees. Some are at ground level. Imagine a blind person's peril trying to manoeuvre the stretch," said another resident.

They lamented that a comprehensive approach towards dealing with issues is missing in BSCL's work. While new light poles were erected, the old poles are still intact, albeit some of them leaning over. Moreover, while Lavelle Road was a classic example of overkill with dustbins installed every 100 metres on either side, Miller's Road did not get even a single dustbin.

Residents also complained of garbage strewn across the stretch — sweeper's brooms, plastic and paper.

According to BSCL, the sinkhole that residents were referring to was dug to interlink the existing water line to the new water lines.

"We have laid new pipelines; we are coordinating with BWSSB regularly. The work got delayed as it required the water lines to be closed. However, we have now identified an alternate location for linking. This area will be filled up soon," said a BSCL official.

According to the official, the median shifting is not part of Smart City work.

However, the existing median will be repaired and painted soon. He also added that while Smart City roads have ducts for laying fibre optic cables, many private organisations have taken permission from the BBMP to install overhead cables."The cables have to be removed by the BBMP. While we had a round of discussion with the Palike on this issue some time ago, it has not been implemented yet," the official added.

Palike, BESCOM tie up for tax collection

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

commercial purposes. Based on this, we can issue notices to the property owners and extract the exact tax value. The tie up with the power distribution company is mainly aimed at back-end verification."

He said after two years of covid downturn, BBMP has scripted history by collecting Rs 2,000 crore as property tax in April and May. One of the reasons for the increase in property tax is the automation of the zonal population. The zonal freezing was done in May.

There were confusions in May on which zone to choose. Now, when the street is identified by the property owner, it automatically shows the details of the tax.

Drone survey

Besides BESCOM tie up, now BBMP has taken up drone surveys of properties. "As a pilot project, we have taken up drone surveys for a two-kilometre stretch in Airport Road. So far, 150 properties have been surveyed with the help of drones. We are following a two-step process where we are using technology with drone footage to assess the property.

Secondly, the drone survey won't give us other details like flooring and so on. So, our officials will also physically inspect areas and submit reports," the official said.

No drum beating

One of the biggest challenges for the BBMP is property tax collection. BBMP used to resort to drum beating in front of the property owner's house or office. However, IRS officer Deepak said this archaic method needs to be done away with. So, BBMP is now planning to attach bank accounts, movable and immovable assets of the defaulter.

"Though we have provisions for the same, we need to work on modalities on how to go about it. Till now, our officials would go to the defaulter's house and seize chairs or almirahs. This was done due to lack of information both internally and externally. So, we decided to stop this 'table-chair' business. Hence, we have decided to go towards specific business-wise analysis. We have been mapping every business venture in the ward level.

For example, during covid, many hospitals did good business. However, a few of the hospitals failed to pay property tax. Hence, we want to pursue such hospitals. We will step up the data analysis to plug the tax loophole. Like the Income Tax department, we want to collect all the details of property owners. However, one of the challenges is data privacy. So, we are working to ensure a safety mechanism," he said, adding that training sessions must be conducted for BBMP revenue officials on tax collection and calculation.

HEALTH TIP: Drink plenty of water throughout the day. It will help ensure optimal gut health

Licorice root helps soothe the scalp and get rid of any dry flakes/dandruff

Smoke busters

Strategies to deal with stress instead of smoking

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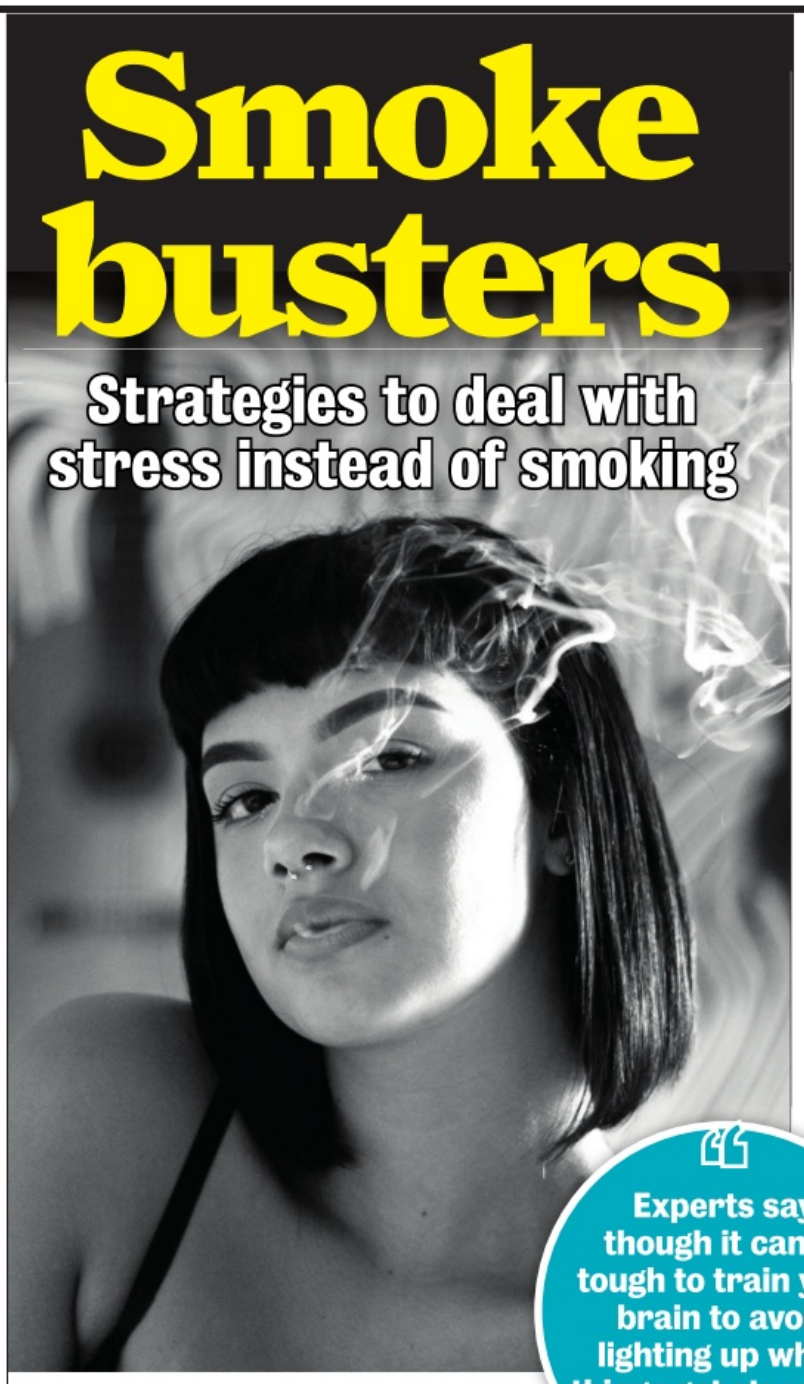
When you're stressed, do you seek relief from a cigarette? If yes, then you're not alone. The majority of smokers turn to cigarettes to relieve stress. Reaching for a cigarette might become a natural response to uncomfortable feelings in life because it feels like a means to escape. "Though it's a common misconception that smoking relieves stress symptoms, the truth is that smoking exacerbates stressful or challenging situations because nicotine elevates your heart rate and blood pressure, forcing your heart to work harder and making relaxing impossible," reveals Gagan Dhawan, Founder and CEO, The New Me who says It also causes the skin to wrinkle quickly. "When you stop smoking for an extended period of time, you acquire withdrawal symptoms and a strong need for nicotine. Nicotine also reduces cravings and offers a brief spike of dopamine," he adds.

Many experts believe that it can be tough to train your brain to avoid the need to smoke when things get stressful, but it is doable. "You may control your urges and prevent yourself from succumbing to the impulse. You may have learned how to deal with stress by smoking. There are, however, stress-relieving alternatives to smoking. Some of these solutions will require some practise, while others can be applied straight away," Dhawan adds when discussing ways to deal with stress through smoking.

Practice Deep Breathing - Deep breathing can help calm jittery nerves and relieve tension quickly. Your body's tension starts to dissipate when you inhale three counts with your nose and exhale three counts through your mouth. You can also incorporate meditation into your deep breathing routine. Allow your thoughts to come and go without focusing on one in particular by concentrating on your breath. To begin, set a timer for five minutes each day. Meditation has been related to increased self-control. It will be of great help to assist you in overcoming intense cravings during withdrawal.

Exercise And Eat Right – A form of physical activity is beneficial to your physical and mental health; exercise, fresh air, and a higher heart rate help alleviate stress symptoms. Early cessation is when you should pay special attention to ensuring that all of your needs are addressed. Your body requires high-quality fuel as it tries to remove toxins from your system. Since cigarettes deplete numerous nutrients and vitamins, you should begin replacing them with a well-balanced diet. Water is also a fantastic way to help you quit smoking. It aids in the detoxification process and can be used as a hunger suppressant. Hence, you will feel better overall if you stay hydrated.

Step Out - Put on your walking shoes and take a short walk every day, even if it's only for 15 minutes. It will help you manage stress as you quit smoking. In short, walking calms the mind and enhances circulation.



"Experts say though it can be tough to train your brain to avoid lighting up when things get stressful, it is doable

Indulge In Hobbies - Listen to your favorite music, dance if you like, read books to soothe your mind, go swimming or play a sport. Indulging in hobbies is an excellent way to reduce stress and distract yourself from the strong urge to smoke.

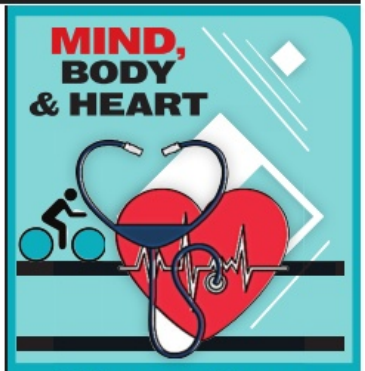
Talk To Someone - It feels fantastic to rant to friends, family, or coworkers about smoking; you'll know who the best advisors are in your life. You could also get advice from a trained specialist.

Sleep Properly - Quitting might be exhausting in the beginning since your body and mind are both stressed. The longer you don't smoke, the less tired you will feel. People who quit smoking experienced a peak in weariness after six weeks and subsequently began to feel better. When you stop smoking, you may also feel emotionally fatigued. Smoking may have helped you cope with emotions that you now need to learn to address through healthy coping techniques.

Managing Withdrawal - Your body reacts physically to nicotine withdrawal and to the thousands of chemicals in cigarette smoke that you ingest. You must be prepared to deal with the stress that comes with this rehabilitation stage. Understanding how stress plays a role in early nicotine addiction recovery and having a few skills to deal with the distress will help you handle it successfully.

Cut Down On Caffeine - When you stop smoking, the amount of coffee or caffeinated drinks you're used to drinking may cause you to feel jittery and worried. So, cut down on caffeine when you are in the process of giving up smoking. You'll probably be able to drink coffee again once you've gone through the withdrawal phase.

Focus On The Present - Many of us waste a lot of time thinking about things other than the day in front of us. Try not to think about tomorrow or any other day when dealing with nicotine withdrawal. Try your best not to get caught up in the terror of 'never being able to smoke again'. Instead, vow to make the most of the present moment. You have the option of quitting smoking for the day. That's all there is to it.



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a 26-year-old man and I've been dating someone for a few months, who I'm totally in love with.
She's five years older, drop-dead gorgeous and successful.
I thank my lucky stars every day that we met.
However, my mates are lukewarm about the relationship to say they least. They're always making "jokey" comments like she's only after a "toy boy" for some fun or she'll dump me when she meets a rich banker who wants babies or she's going to trap me into marriage.
It's all said in banter, but actually I feel hurt that they can't just be happy for me. We've been mates for years and I don't know where this is coming from.

COLEEN SAYS

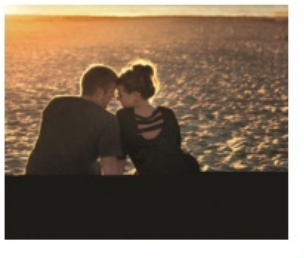
They sound envious to be honest. I don't know what their individual situations are, but maybe they're jealous because you've landed this great woman and you're clearly in love with her.

Or maybe they're still a bit emotionally immature, while you're moving on and possibly moving away from them. They might even feel a bit threatened.

Perhaps the way to tackle this is to banter back – I'm sure you can come up with a few gems – and also make it very clear that you're not embarrassed or worried by this relationship at all because you feel like the luckiest man alive.

Have confidence in yourself and in the relationship. My guess is, they'll get bored of the digs and one or two might even fall in love themselves and realise what all the fuss was about.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror



MIRRORLIGHTS

How working moms can strike the work-life balance

Women are famed for their ability to multitask, and mothers are pro! As a working mom, your entire life can feel like balancing on a tightrope, but if you enjoy what you do, you can do it without being stressed out. Some days are filled with happiness and surprises, while others are tiring and disheartening. There are moments when your child is well-behaved, and then there are days when he or she acts up. But you continue to do what you are good at. "It's hard but not impossible," says Jennifer Mulchandani, Founder of The Boutique Project, who gives insider insights on how to balance it after chatting with a few supermoms who rock both their full-time professions and personal life.

- Me-time is majorly underrated and as difficult as it is to find that time, it will help keep your sanity in check.
- Divide and conquer may not work with everything, but if it means sharing the load with your husband, don't hesitate to go for it.
- Scheduling is life changing. Plan a night prior to making sure your day is empty of any unwanted surprises.
- A Positive mindset is everything – it can even turn playtime into a mini workout for mommy.
- Do things that bring you happiness and make you feel more like yourself.

And finally, acknowledge that you are Supermom. Your home may not always be in order, and you may be sporting a mom bun around the clock, but you've got this. And isn't it empowering to be capable of doing everything? Everything encompasses motherhood, work, and being a wife and a daughter. Because, ultimately, only you can determine what you're capable of which can be nothing short of conquering the globe!

–Kayalvizhi Arivalan

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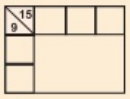
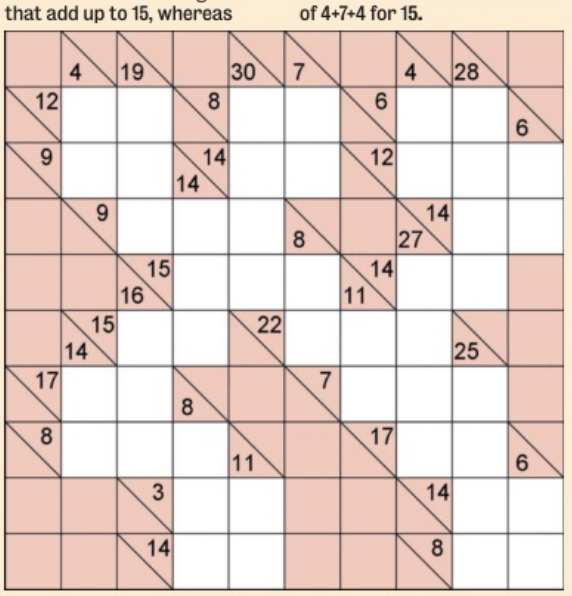
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

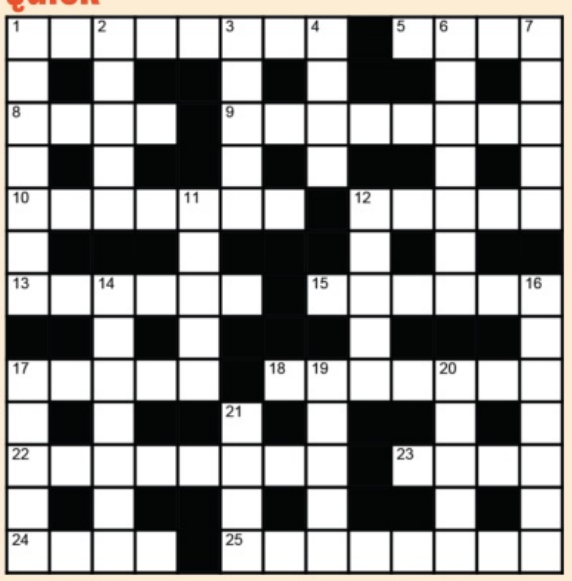


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Disappeared (8)
5 Unable to hear (4)
8 Indian music form (4)
9 Destroy by fire (8)
10 Meanings or plans (7)
12 Elects (5)
13 Delphic advisor (6)
15 Jump or leap (6)
17 Nick of Pink Floyd (5)
18 Making a lace (7)
22 Theme park located on the Place Grounds (3,5)
23 Arched recess (4)
24 Made cooler (4)
25 Emanated or emitted (8)

DOWN

1 Dizziness (7)
2 Darkness (5)
3 Raise (5)
4 Moist (4)
6 Dramatised or performed (7)
7 Parasites on a dog ? (5)
11 Interstellar director Christopher ___ (5)
12 Leap over (5)
14 Failure to attend (7)
16 Boffin (7)
17 Civilian clothes (5)
19 Totted up (5)
20 Part of I/O (5)
21 Colloquial way of saying `brother' ? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: V EQUALS G

KG WGFD EZ ZG ZKSNKWEIV EK WDSFDZ WEKKWD KEBD XGN SIAKYEIV DWZD.

Linemaro

They say there's someone for everyone. I think I've spotted my match

Mindchow

A man who does not think for himself does not think at all

Joke of the day

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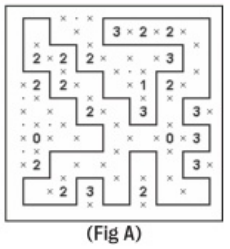
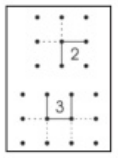
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

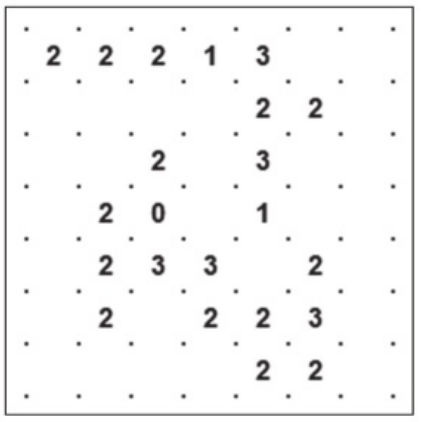


(Fig B) Not Allowed

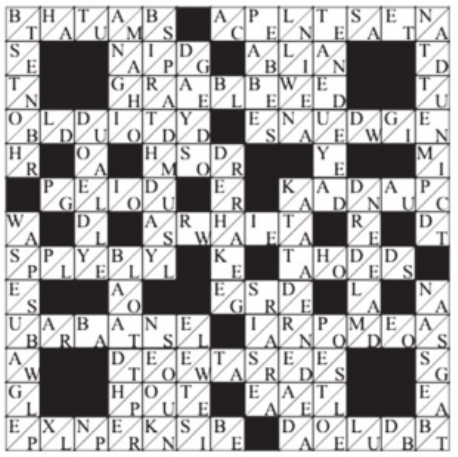
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



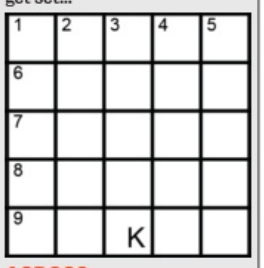
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Mt Ass; 6 Up NIH; 7 Toles; 8 Do ere; 9 Drake

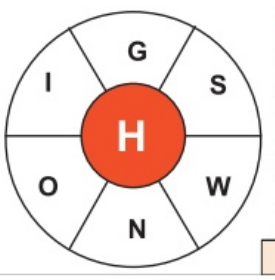
DOWN

1 Mures; 2 Ratan; 3 Hooks; 4 Tiled; 5 Deeps

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; 06 Good; 08 Outstanding

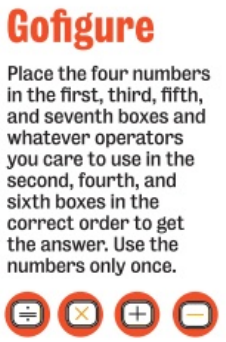
SudokuChallenge

		8			4			
	4		1			9		
	1		3	2			6	
			2				8	
	8	5				3	1	
	6				1			
	5			1	9		3	
		9			8		2	
			7			8		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy = 9

3 5 8 9

Medium = 2

2 2 7 7

Hard = 5

5 8 9 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Back of chair is different. 3. Phone cord is different. 4. Drawer handle is higher. 5. Flower is lower. 6. Mouth is different.

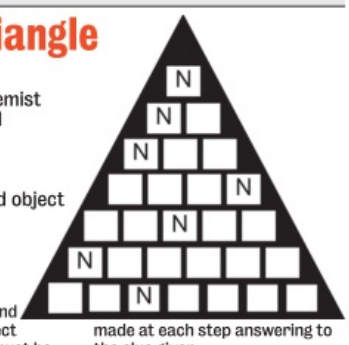
Riddler

Each sentence below contains a word that can be anagrammed to answer or describe the sentence.

1. Bit of brush
2. Opposite of unite
3. Writings of a steno

Alpha triangle

1 One of the poles
2 Neon for the chemist
3 Formerly named
4 Adolescent
5 Maxim
6 Provoke
7 Crescent shaped object



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

FATHER, TANGLEFOOT HAS SOMETHING TO SAY
I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU FOR YOUR DAUGHTER'S HAND
IF IT'S THE ONE THAT SIGNS ALL THE CHARGE ACCOUNTS, YOU'VE GOT IT!
3-22

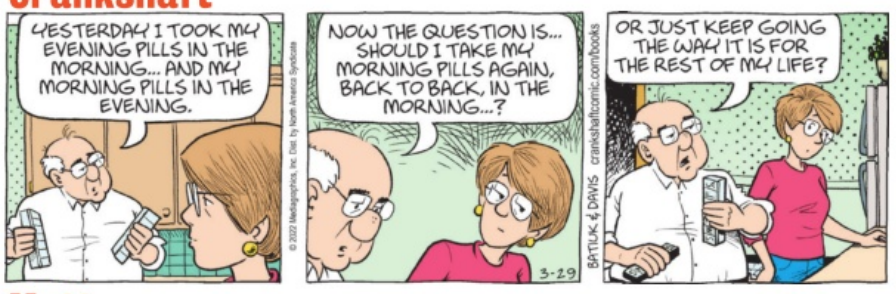
Bizarrotrip

BIZARRO.COM
A hundred victims were stuck to a giant strip of paper. I suspect aliens.
BELIEVE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
THE X-FLIES

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft


YESTERDAY I TOOK MY EVENING PILLS IN THE MORNING... AND MY MORNING PILLS IN THE EVENING.
NOW THE QUESTION IS... SHOULD I TAKE MY MORNING PILLS AGAIN, BACK TO BACK, IN THE MORNING...?
OR JUST KEEP GOING THE WAY IT IS FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE?
3-29

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you will be more energetic and excited. Your focus towards your goals might be very good. Your network may help you to grow your business. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in fixed assets. Emotional relationship with the spouse is likely to be improved which will maintain domestic harmony. Singles may find soulmate with the help of siblings or friends.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may be busy with family and friends; you will plan to go for outings. Kids' education will also keep you busy. Kids' health may make you upset. You are advised to control your tongue and ego, otherwise it may affect your domestic harmony.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you are advised to be careful in signing contracts; you are advised to read documents carefully before signing. Due to overexcitement, you can make silly mistakes. Your boss may be cooperative now. You are likely to expect a promotion in terms of job. Lovebirds are advised to avoid family matters.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel dull; it will make you impatient and nervous; you will criticise yourself. You are advised to keep an eye on your opponents and rivals. You must avoid fantasising in terms of your profession. You must postpone new investments. You are advised to take care of your mother and elders.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today is a favourable day for you. You are likely to get some inherited property; you may also expect to recover a bad debt which may boost your financial health. Losses are likely to convert into profits now. There may be some improvement in the relationships with the loved ones. Students will be able to choose the right career.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may be busy at work. You may take some important decision in terms of work, which may increase in your business. You may also expect a big order, which may increase in the business. Disputes with the spouse will be settle now, which may create family harmony.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are blessed by elders. You may be more spiritual. You are likely to visit some religious place with family and friends. You will also plan to visit some of your elders or consultant for advice. Singles are likely to find their soulmate. Lovebirds will be happy in the dating.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel dull. You may have some mysterious fear around you. You are advised to visit some religious place or chant some prayers to come out from this messy situation. You are advised to keep an eye on opponents and business rivals; otherwise, you may be a victim of conspiracy. It is advised for lovebirds to avoid to make unnecessary arguments.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may be busy with family and friends. You may plan to go for party, watch movies. Mutual respect may arise between couples, which may be a reason for building a strong foundation for your domestic life. In partnerships, many disputes may be resolved. Students are advised to take quick decisions in terms of their career. Lovebirds may take some important decision in terms of marriage.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may perform well at work. Your bonding with the boss is likely to be improved. Your opponents and rivals are now under control. Money which was stuck, is likely to be recovered now which may increase your liquidity in the business.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be busy in kids' issues. Kids health is likely to be improved. You may plan for kids' academics. Couples may welcome a new child in the family. You may use your presence of mind to settle the disputes in terms of business and social life.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may be disappointed. You are not focused. Negative thoughts may make you upset. You are advised to connect with positive people around you. You may plan to migrate from one place to another. Job-seekers may find a new job; students are advised to keep patience. Singles are likely to find good match.

KIDZONE

Kim Fenevick, 8 Years, The Frank Anthony School

Arian Kova CS, 8 Years, Podar Happy Kids

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
((2*4)+90) / ((5x4x3x2) – (4x3x2) + 2))
= 98 / 4x3x2 (5–1)+2 = 98 / (24 x 4 +2)
98 / (96+2) = 98 / 98 = 1

BULL'S EYE
hosting, nigh, shin, show, SHOWING, shown, sigh, wish

RIDDLER
1. Shrub,
2. Untie,
3. Notes

FAST FIVE

M	A	S	T	S
U	N	H	I	P
S	T	O	L	E
E	R	O	D	E
R	A	K	E	D

STRIKE OUT

T	H	U	M	B		C	E	L	E	S	T	E		
	A	I	D		B	I	N				T			
E			G	R	A	B	E	D			T			
N			R	A	G	A		I	M	M	O	L	A	T	E
			A											
E	X	P	E	N	S	E		D	O	U	B	T		

QUICK

I	C	E	D		R	A	D	I	A	T	E	D		
M	A	S	O	N		T	A	T	T	I	N	G		
			O											
O	R	A	C	L	E		H	U	R	D	L	E		
I	N	T	E	N	T	S		V	O	T	E	S		
				H		S								
V	A	N	I	S	H	E	D		D	E	A	F		
E		I		O		A			N		L			
R	A	G	A		I	M	M	O	L	A	T	E		
T		C		E		E		L						
F	U	N	W	O	R	L	D		A	P	S	E		
U		E		B		D		N		H				
M	A	S	O	N		T	A	T	T	I	N	G		
B		A		L								G		
O	R	A	C	L	E		H	U	R	D	L	E		
G		O		A		E								
I	N	T	E	N	T	S		V	O	T	E	S		
T		H		S		P		C		A				
R	A	G	A		I	M	M	O	L	A	T	E		
E		I		O		A			N		L			
V	A	N	I	S	H	E	D		D	E	A	F		
I	C	E	D		R	A	D	I	A	T	E	D		

MENSA PUZZLE
11. (6 x 11) – 24 = 90

QUOTE UNCODE
To love is so startling
it leaves little time
for anything else.

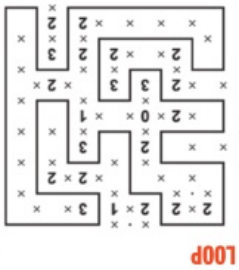
SUDOKU

6	3	1	7	4	2	8	9	5
4	7	9	5	3	8	6	2	1
8	5	2	6	1	9	7	3	4
7	6	3	8	5	1	2	4	9
2	8	5	4	9	6	3	1	7
1	9	4	2	7	3	5	8	6
9	1	7	3	2	5	4	6	8
3	4	6	1	8	7	9	5	2
5	2	8	9	6	4	1	7	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, Ne, Nee, Teen, Tenet, Nettle, Lunette.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 + 9 + 5 – 8 = 9
Medium
7 – 7 / 2 + 2 = 2
Hard
8 – 7 – 5 + 9 = 5

LOOP



KAKURO

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Doctor Strange on OTT
Superhero film 'Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness' will be heading to OTT after running in theatres for six weeks. The show will start streaming from June 22

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Saturday, June 4, 2022
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All for healthy competition

Ananya Panday's view: Amazing work going on across country's many film industries

Ananya Panday, who spoke to ETimes, said she feels competition between actors in the industry is healthy now and that there are actually no separate film industries in India. The Student of the Year 2 actor says, it is just one film industry.

I'm grateful that I'm an actor With Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan and Janhvi Kapoor, among others, congratulating debutants Agastya Nanda, Suhana Khan and Khushi Kapoor and the other actors for their first film, talk of nepotism in Bollywood has again begun. Ananya too has faced the question and jibes on the subject early on in her career. Saying that the conversation of nepotism has been going around for a very long time now, Ananya said, "I don't think, anything I can say will change the conversation about this whole topic or contribute to it in any way. It's a good thing though that people question things and there is a healthy debate around it, but honestly, I'm just very grateful that I'm an actor and I get to live my dream every single day. At the end of the day, I just want to make my fans or my audiences proud of me and I just want to keep getting better. I just want to keep growing and just want to keep improving myself and I am just focussed on that."

Healthy competition

Talking about the lessening divide between the North and the South film industries and films from the South becoming hits across India, Ananya said, "The competition is really healthy between actors across industries within India now. I always say competition is healthy and seeing people around me doing such amazing work just motivates me to do even better work myself. After all it's one country and they are all Indian films and not just north or south Indian films. It's great to see Indian films being appreciated across the country and abroad too."

In love with work

Rumours of the actor being in a relationship have been floating around for a long time, but quashing all of them, she said, "My relationship status as of now is that I am completely in love with my work."

—Iti Shree Misra

Fans spot shades of Darkman in Jawan

Shah Rukh Khan on Friday unveiled the first look teaser of his upcoming action entertainer with director Atlee, titled 'Jawan'.

"An action-packed 2023! Bringing #Jawan to you, an explosive entertainer in cinemas 2nd June 2023," the superstar said as he shared the teaser on his social media handles. The 1 minute 30 seconds clip featured SRK with his head and hands in bandages, in a secret hideout full of machine guns, explosive ammo and some outdated tech to keep him in the loop with the outside world. Unlike the other Bollywood heroes, this film will see SRK, bloodied, and bruised and will have most of his face wrapped in bandages.

If Shah Rukh Khan's avatar in this clip left you with the feeling of deja vu, it may be because you watched the 1990 Sam Raimi antihero film 'Darkman'.

Starring Liam Neeson as a vengeful Marvel antihero, 'Darkman' followed expert scientist Peyton Westlake who is in the process of developing artificial skin, when his lab mysteriously blows up with him inside. Driven mad with his injuries and filled with the spirit of vengeance, he becomes 'Darkman' and sets out for blood. "They destroyed everything he had, everything he was. Now, crime has a new enemy and justice has a new face," read the synopsis of the film. —ETimes

Demure debutant

Check out pictures of Pashmina that prove that the camera loves her

Watch this story come alive on your device by scanning this QR code

Relationship tip from Kiara

Kiara Advani, who is in a rumoured relationship with Sidharth Malhotra, recently opened up about what she is looking for in a man and the worst thing you can do in a relationship.

In an interview to a magazine, Kiara opened up about what she is looking for in a partner. She said she wanted someone who just makes her feel loved, seen and heard, and does not take her for granted.

The actress added that there should be no egos. She said, the worst thing you can do in a relationship is to allow your ego to come in the way. For her, a healthy relationship is one where there is clear, respectful communication. One needs to accept each other for who they are and nurture that, she said. -ETimes

Amber Heard can't pay $10 million damages to Depp: Lawyer

After a Virginia court found that actor Amber Heard defamed her ex-husband, actor Johnny Depp, her lawyer said she can't pay the $10.35 million in damages.

According to a report, when asked if her client could pay the prescribed sum during an interview, on Thursday, June 2, Elaine Bredehoft answered, "Oh, no, absolutely not."

Johnny, 58, would be awarded, $10 million in compensatory damages and $5 million in punitive damages the judge announced on Wednesday, June 1. For her counterclaim, Amber, on the other hand, was given $2 million in compensatory damages but no punitive damages.

After the judge decreased the sum due to a Virginia rule capping punitive damages, Amber will only have to pay $10.35 million. According to the report, Amber intends to appeal the decision.

She took to social media after the trial. Taking to Instagram, Amber posted a note: "The disappointment I feel today is beyond words, I'm heartbroken that the mountain of evidence still was not enough to stand up to the disproportionate power, influence, and sway of my ex-husband"

According to the 'Aquaman' actor, her concerns went beyond her own case. "I'm even more disappointed with what this verdict means for other women. It is a setback. It sets back the clock to a time when a woman who spoke up and spoke out could be publicly shamed and humiliated," she continued. "It sets back the idea that violence against women is to be taken seriously. I believe Johnny's attorneys succeeded in getting the jury to overlook the key issue of Freedom of Speech and ignore evidence that was so conclusive that we won in the U.K..."